

THE 1481 G. 37.

CRITERION

K
OF THE

REASON and NECESSITY

OF THE

PRESENT WAR;

AND OF

Pursuing it with Steadiness and Vigour.



L O N D O N :

Printed for M. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Paternoster-Row*. M. DCC. XLV.

(Price One Shilling.)

CHITRE

18

1830

1830

1830



e
b
v
a
n
c
t
t
r
h
t
S
C
f
i
M
m
a
U
p
b

T H E

CRITERION.

THE first Thing which seems requisite in a Writer, who enters into a Dispute on the Question, Whether the War we are now engaged in be just and necessary? is plainly to lay before the Reader the whole State of the Case, previous to his own particular Reasoning, that it may appear on what Kind of Basis he founds his Arguments. The Neglect whereof has hitherto, I conceive, been the chief, if not the only Reason why the generality of Mankind have such confused Notions of a Subject whereof they ought to be thorough Masters, and, like the Clouds, are moved here and there as varying Streams of Wind happen to push them. Our political Reasoners are these Streams of Wind, and whether they bend their Course, in favour of, or in Opposition to, the Pursuits of the Government, put the People's Minds in Motion as Accident directs.

To obviate this Inconvenience, and to fix the Minds of my Countrymen steady and uniform, to make them perfectly Masters of their own Interest, and desirous, willing, and resolved to pursue it with Unanimity; I have taken a Method founded on plain and evident Facts, certain as Records of the best History can render them, to make the Utility

as well as the Necessity of the present War as clear as Light.

To which End I have *first* shewn the Views and Designs of *France* to the Prejudice of her Neighbours for many Years past ; That her Maxims have been pursued from time to time, by one regular form'd and well connected System, are the same at this Day as ever, and are only to be countermin'd and destroyed, by a fix'd and determin'd Resolution to conquer all Obstacles, and beat her into better Neighbourhood.

I shall *next* make appear, from the Authorities of the best Opinions, and from the Nature, Reason, and common Sense of Things, how much it is more particularly our Business to put a Stop to the growing Power of *France* ; and how much more her Pursuits ought to command our Attention, than of any other Nation.

And *lastly* shall shew, that altho' good Conduct at Sea may and will mainly contribute to this important End ; yet that Land Forces are absolutely necessary to complete our Views, and to preserve our Liberty and Independency as a Nation.

I conceive it noways necessary to carry the Reader back to far distant Times, to render these Truths eminently evident ; I presume one Century will be sufficient, as in that Space so much Matter occurs, as will put what I propose to prove by my first Article quite out of doubt.

It little concerns the Affair in question, whether *France* aims at universal Monarchy, or whether she only endeavours to enlarge her Dominions in such Manner by Land, as may at once guard her own Territories on every Side, and put her into a Disposition capable of acquiring the Dominion of the Ocean, the favourite Point in View ; but in no Sense to be attain'd, without first securing herself on every Side by Land, by extending her Frontiers
every

every Way to the Ocean, and swallowing up all the Maritime Powers in her Way.

Her Pursuits to this End shall here only commence from the Treaty of *Munster* in 1648, whereby she acquired on the Side of *Germany* the Town of *Brisac*, the Upper and Lower *Alsace*, the *Sanigow*, the Prefecture of the ten Imperial Towns situate in *Alsace*, viz. *Haguenau*, *Colmar*, *Schelfstadt*, *Weissenburg*, *Landau*, *Obernheim*, *Rocheim*, *Munster an Val*, *St. Gregoire*, *Keiserberg* and *Tungheim*, with all the Villages and Rights belonging to the said Prefecture, the Villages belonging to the Community of *Brisac*, with all the ancient Territory of that Town.— In *Lorrain* the Town of *Moyenvie*, and the Possession of the three Bishoprics of *Metz*, *Toul* and *Verdun* confirmed.— In *Piedmont*, the Possession of *Pignerol* confirmed.

This the Reader will conceive a pretty tolerable Acquisition at first setting out, more especially when he comes to learn, that under the Sanction of the three Bishopricks, she pretended afterwards a Right to, and possessed herself of, the whole Dutchy of *Lorrain*, as will appear in its proper Place.

Her next and nearest Acquisition was the Town and Castle of *Sedan*, *Rancour*, and the whole Dutchy of *Bouillon*, which in the Year 1651 she conceived to be very convenient, and for that Reason possess'd herself of.

But this did not much either concern *Britain* or Maritime Dominion, these were only a kind of Redoubts on the two Sides where she chiefly feared an Alliance with *England* might keep her employed by Land, and so prevent her Views on that Side, where she might most sensibly affect us; therefore to be guarded against *Italy* and *Germany* was her first Security, and the Basis whereon she founded the general Plan.

Which established; she enters into a War with *Spain*, and by drawing *England* into her Aid (contrary to all true Policy, but suiting the Government of that Time) acquires what she had most at Heart, a good Footing in the Netherlands, and a more extended Frontier towards *Spain*, viz. by the Treaty of the *Pyrennees* 1659, she acquired the Town and Citadel of *Perpignan*, with the *Rouffillon*, the *Conflans*, and Part of the *Cerdagne*, with *Casel*, and thirty three Villages. In the *Netherlands*, the County of *Artois*, in which are the Towns of *Arras*, *Beaupaume*, *Belhune*, *Lillers*, *Lens*, *St. Pol*, *Teroane*, *Pas*, &c. with *Gravelines*, Fort *Philip*, the Fort *del Echuse*, Fort *Henvin*, *Bourburg*, and *St. Venant*. Part of *Hainault*, in which are the Towns of *Landrecy*, *Quesnoy*, *Marienburg*, *Philipville*, *Avennes*. Part of *Luxemburg*, with *Tbionville*, *Montmedy*, *Danvillers*, *Yvoy*, *Cheveny le Chaud*, *Marville*. And to compleat the Account would have had *Dunkirk* then, had not our Protector been somewhat too cunning to fight for nothing.—But she likewise acquir'd the Dutchy of *Bar*, and a further Part of *Lorraine*, viz. *Clermont*, *Stancy*, *Dun*, *Jamets*, and the Possession of *Moyenvie* confirmed; and in 1662 purchased *Dunkirk*.

By which Means, within the Space of fourteen Years, *France* had acquired so much Dominion, as began to make her regarded by those who previously judged of her Pursuits, as our wise Men do now; their Wisdoms agreed she was not to be opposed, till it seem'd almost impracticable to oppose, and then, as Men bewilder'd in their own Infatuation, instead of using the most rational Means to preserve themselves from future Encroachments, they indolently permitted her to go on: *Holland* was left in a manner desperate and defenceless, and *England* swarm'd, as now, with *French* Agents, with this Difference, that then they were protected
and

and encouraged by the Court, now despis'd and laugh'd at. One Extreme generally produces another, the *Dutch* then seeing us backward, used every Art to engage us in their Defence, and now our Politics are turned in their Favour, seem not to care much about it: So that perhaps a little Backwardness on our Side, may probably bring them once more to their Senses; and until that happens, however it is plainly our Interest to defend the *Low Countries*, we may find it difficult to succeed.

France had now establish'd the Basis of her future Opulence, and was in such a happy Situation, as to do almost what she pleased, and in six Years Time more, made so good a Progress, that by the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle* 1668, she had yielded to her, in the County of *Namur*, *Charleroy*.—In the County of *Hainault*, the Towns of *Binch* and *Aeth*.—In the County of *Flanders*, the Bailliage of *Doway*, wherein is the Town of *Doway*, *Fort Scarp*, *le Ecluse*, *Orchies* and *Marchiennes*; the *Tournes*, wherein are the Towns of *Tournay*, *St. Amand* and *Mertagne*, the Castellany and Town of *Audenarde*; the Province and Government of *Lisle*, with the Town; the *Caremban*, in which are *Pontavendin* and *Phalompiu*; the *Puede*, in which are *Montsent-quele*, *Chisoin*, *Pont-a-Mark* and *Pont-a-Bouvannes*; the *Melantboise*, wherein are *Pont-Reffin* and *Seclin*; the *Ferain*, in which are *La Bassée* and *Hautbourdin*; the Town of *Armentieres*, the Castellany of *Courtray*, *Menin*, *Harlebecke*, *Deinse*, *Thielt*, *Rosebeck*; the Viscounty of *Berg*, in which are *Berg*, *St. Vinox* and *Fort St. Francis*; the Viscounty of *Furnes*; wherein are *Furnes*, *Fort Knocque*, &c.

All these were ceded to *France*, on the modern Principle that she was not to be oppos'd, and on a wise Conclusion, that she would desire no more: The *Dutch* Frontiers left quite open, and what further *France* pleas'd, whenever she would give

give herself the Trouble to conquer ; which as she never fail'd, a fair Opportunity presenting, in about eleven Years more made the following moderate Acquisitions, which were ceded to her, as wisely presuming she would still go no farther.

This brings us to the Treaty of *Nimeguen* 1679, whereby she acquir'd in the County of *Flanders*, the Towns and Castellany of *Ypres*, *Bailliene*, and *Capel*, with their Dependencies ; a Confirmation of the Town and District of *Menin* ; the Towns and Dependencies of *Warneton* and *Poperingen* ; in *Artois*, the Towns and Dependencies of *St. Omer* and *Aire* ; in the *Cambresis*, *Cambray* ; in *Hainbault*, the Towns and Dependencies of *Valenciennes*, *Bouchain*, *Conde*, *Bavay*, and *Maubeuge* ; in the Bishopric of *Liege*, *Dinant* ; the *Franche Compté*.

In *Germany*, the Town and Citadel of *Friburg* with three Villages depending on it.

In *Lorraine*, the Towns of *Nancy* and *Longies*, with four Roads cross *Lorraine*, from *Nancy* to *Metz* ; *St. Didier*, *Vesoul*, and into *Alsace*.

By this Treaty it was stipulated between *France* and *Spain*, that Commissioners should meet at *Cambray*, to regulate all the Disputes that might arise concerning the Limits ; but after several long Contests, occasioned by the exorbitant Pretensions of *France*, that Crown laid claim to entire Provinces, under the Denomination and Pretext of Dependencies ; and thereupon, in the Spring of the Year 1680, took Possession of the Abbies of *Thierry* and *St. Gerrard*, with forty Villages in the Province of *Namur*, and the Abbey of *Molin*.

Whereupon, in *February* of the same Year, the Emperor held a Diet at *Ratisbon*, and there represented to them the dangerous Views of
France,

France, which he strongly enforc'd by opening to them the following Particulars in Breach of the above Treaty ; viz. Their maintaining of Troops in the Empire ; by keeping the Places which they ought to have evacuated ; by exacting Contributions ; by demanding from the Ten Towns in *Alsace* a new Oath, under Pretext of Sovereignty, erecting a superior Court of Judicature, and forbidding the carrying of any Suit before the Chamber of *Spire* ; by obliging the Nobles and Vassals of *Alsace* to take a new Oath ; by pretending a Right of Vassalage upon *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, and upon other Imperial Provinces and Towns ; by confiscating the Revenues of the Chapter of *Strasburg* ; by making new Fortifications at *Selestadt* and *Huninguen* ; by refusing to restore the Dutchy of *Montbeillard* ; by taking Possession of *Hamburg* and *Bitsch* ; and by forming of several Pretensions relating to the City of *Strasburg*.

After a long Deliberation the Diet resolv'd, in Despite of the *French* Emissary there, that such Proceedings were directly contrary to the Treaties of *Munster* and *Nimeguen* ; that the Emperor should be desir'd to demand Satisfaction, in his own Name and on the Part of the Empire ; and that such Resolution should be notified to the Ministers of *France*, at the Imperial Court and at *Ratisbon*, with a Remonstrance of the Injustice of the Infractions of the said two Treaties.

But the *French*, instead of satisfying such just Demands, extended the Limits of *Alsace*, form'd new Pretensions upon *Sauterburg* in the Bishopric of *Spire* ; possess'd themselves of *Falkenstein*, and of good Part of the Palatinate ; and in 1681, surpriz'd by Treachery the important City of *Strasburg*.

Thus

Thus between Insolence, Treachery, and Resolution to carry all before them, the *French* steadily pursued their main Point in view; viz. first to put it out of the Power of her Neighbours on the Continent in any Sense to oppose them, that they might be more at leisure to attend to their Attempts on the Maritime Powers, and acquire the Dominion of the Ocean. It will plainly appear by what follows, that in all these Pursuits, *Britain* was obliquely aim'd at; and that it is so still, will appear but too evident.

If *France* had only endeavoured to extend herself on the Side of the Empire, it would have seem'd, that her principal Design was only to have extended her Power over the Continent, and to have divided the Empire with the *Turks*, her constant Allies: But when we come to see that *Flanders* and *Italy* were as much her Pursuit as the Empire, we come plainly to apprehend her main Drift, which she knew was not to be attain'd until her Frontiers were well secur'd on all Sides, and her Neighbours on the Continent rendered too weak to impede them.

Almost all the Princes of *Europe*, the House of *Austria* excepted, seem'd about this Time to forget themselves, or wanting that Fortitude which is alone the Basis of Independency, appear'd ready to throw themselves into the Arms of *France*, and to become her Slaves; some that they might become arbitrary over their own Subjects, as *Charles II.* of *England*; others out of Fear of losing what they possess'd, as the *Dutch*, who lost as now, for fear of losing.

In *Italy* 1681, the Duke of *Mantua* delivered *Casal* into the Hands of the *French* for four Millions of Livres, about 200,000 sterling, and soon after resigned his Dukedom. About the same Time,

Time, a *Frenchman* took it into his Head to search the Archives of the Parliament of *Metz* — and soon after made the following wonderful Discovery; viz. That all *Alsace*, *Lorrain*, the Counties of *Chinay*, *Arlon*, *Vierzon*, the whole Country of *Luxemburg*, except the capital City; divers Villages and Lordships in *Germany*, *Brabant*, *Flanders*, *Hainault*, *Artois*, and in the County of *Liege*, belong'd to the Crown of *France*, as Dependencies of the Bishoprics of *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, or of other Places yielded by the Treaties of *Munster* and *Nimeguen*.

To illustrate this Farce, the *French King* established a Tribunal at *Metz*, and another at *Brisac*, and the Lords and other the Inhabitants of the various Places before-mentioned were summoned to appear, in order to hear themselves condemn'd, to make their Submission to his Majesty, and to receive his Orders; and in case of Non-appearance, to be condemn'd for contempt of those Tribunals.

These are some of the Proceedings complain'd of as above to the Diet of the Empire, and upon such and various other like just Pretences, as that *Spain* would not yield up all that *France* claim'd in *Flanders*, she seiz'd *Strasburg*, and block'd up *Luxemburg*.

These Proceedings alarm'd all her Neighbours, but it struck none so sensibly as the then Prince of *Orange*, and the House of *Austria*. The *French* had a strong Party both in *England* and *Holland*, and nothing but the indefatigable Resolution of that illustrious Prince, born to preserve *Europe* from Slavery, could in any Sense have put a Stop to the *French* Carreer. By his Industry a Defensive League was form'd between the Emperor, the King of *Sweden*, the States General, the Circle of *Franconia*, and several Imperial Cities; which was concluded at *Augsburgh*.

The *Dutch* desirous to preserve, if possible, what remain'd of *Flanders*, in the Hands of the *Spaniards*, as esteeming them the best Neighbours of the two, very wisely chose *Charles II.* of *England* Mediator between *France* and *Spain*: But the *Spaniards*, who had quite other Thoughts of the Matter, very justly rejected a Mediation obviously partial. And the *Turks*, the constant Allies of *France*, having at her Instigation made an Irruption into the Empire, the *French* immediately surpriz'd *Courtray* and *Dixmude*; and the *Spaniards* having recall'd their Ambassador, the *French* General had Orders to attack *Gironne*, on the Side of *Catalonia*, and to besiege *Luxemburg* in form, which was accordingly done, and carried, the *Dutch*, as usual, affecting Delay, and the Prince of *Orange*, with the few Forces he had, not able to relieve it.

This brings us on the Verge of the Year 1684, and engages us to consider on what Principles, and by what Assistance or Connivance *France* was enabled uninterruptedly to pursue her Progress with Success: Her Principles were, to have no Regard to the Faith of Treaties, it being of little Significance what the World either thought or said, so she attain'd her Ends, and establish'd herself in a Situation capable of being fear'd: Her chief open Friends were the *Turks*, and they a sufficient Ballance on the Side of the Empire; so that the Emperor was capable of doing little in Opposition to the Views of *France*: The King of *England* was the conceal'd Friend of *France*, or what is the same thing, behav'd as if he was, by conniving at her growing Greatness, and suffering her to become powerful in the *Netherlands*; this appear'd but too plain in almost every Step he took, and is sufficiently confirm'd by the Sale of *Dunkirk*. The *Dutch*, by some thought a wise People, had

had Views and Interests not immediately tallying with the Preservation of the *Netherlands* and their own Safety; they had a strong *French* Party in the State, as *England* had; and the Prince of *Orange* and his Party in *Holland*, and the Parliament of *England*, with the House of *Austria*, were almost the only People who either saw or regarded the fatal Consequences naturally attending the daily Progress of *France*: How far these, by an Union of Minds, carried their Point in the End against all Opposition, will appear in its proper Place. It was plain enough to them all, that nothing but beating her into better Neighbourhood, could render *France* in any Sense confin'd in her Views: Of this, her Behaviour in all Ages and Times had sufficiently convinc'd them. Neither of the three had immediately any Power to act: The House of *Austria* had the *Turks* without, and Enemies within, the Prince of *Orange* the Faction of the *De Witts*, and the *English* their own King to contend with; so that it requir'd much Time, and a Variety of lucky Events, to bring the main Aim to any tolerable Issue; and it was of the last Importance, and what only could stop the Career of *France*, that the People of *England* understood their own Interest, and pursued it with Spirit and Unanimity. It was but too plain what the *English* thought of this Matter, by the Manner in which they treated the King's Connivance at the growing Power of *France*, more especially on that Side where *England* could be most sensibly affected; and which cannot better appear than from the Proceedings of the King's most favourite Parliament, the first in his Reign, and of the longest Continuance; a Parliament that gave him Money without Bounds, and honour'd him beyond Example; a Parliament that differ'd with him in nothing but his fatal Connivance

at *French* Encroachment, whose exorbitant Power seem'd already to know no Circumscription, and which hung like a black Cloud over the Liberty and Independency of *Britain*.

I don't in the least doubt but the impartial Reader will conclude with me, that a *British* Parliament, very much in the Interest of the Court, spoke their Sentiments very freely, and upon very good Consideration, when they oppos'd the Court; nor that the best Evidence we are capable of having is from their own Journals, for which Reason I shall quote them only. In the Beginning of the Year 1677, the Commons represented to the King in very pressing Terms, that the Minds of his People were very much disquieted with the Dangers arising from the manifest Growth and Power of the *French* King; especially by the Acquisitions made, and like to be made by him in the *Spanish* *Netherlands*; ' In
' the Preservation and Security whereof, *they say*,
' we humbly conceive the Interest of your Ma-
' jesty, and the Safety of your People, are highly
' concern'd; and therefore we must humbly be-
' seech your Majesty to take the same into your
' Royal Care, and to strengthen yourself with such
' stricter Alliances as may secure your Majesty's
' Kingdoms, and preserve the said *Spanish* *Nether-*
' *lands*, and thereby quiet the Minds of your Ma-
' jesty's People.'

The Lords agreed with the Commons, but would have added, *That Sicily being of great Importance to our Trade, it should not be in the Hands of the French King*: Whereto the Commons disagreed, because, as they said, ' The special mentioning of
' *Sicily* would seem to put less Weight upon the
' Preservation of the *Spanish* *Netherlands*, the Conser-
' vation of which they conceive to be of much more
' Moment to his Majesty's Kingdoms than that
I of

‘ of *Sicily*; for tho’ it may be of great Importance
 ‘ to our Trade, that *Sicily* be not in the Hands of
 ‘ the *French King*, yet, *the Safety of his Majesty’s*
 ‘ *Kingdoms is not so immediately endangered thereby,*
 ‘ *and therefore it ought not to be equally insisted on.*’

The King concurr’d in owning the great Importance the Conservation of *Flanders* was to *England*, but shewed an Aversion to a War for its Defence; perhaps for the same Reason that he previously sold *Dunkirk*. His Answer, consequently, being little satisfactory, a Motion was made for a second Address, and in pursuance thereof, the House, *March* the 30th, presented a second Address, when they, ‘ With most earnest and repeated Desires
 ‘ implore his Majesty, that he would be pleased to
 ‘ take timely care to prevent those Dangers that
 ‘ may arise to these Kingdoms by the great Power
 ‘ of the *French King*, and the Progress he daily
 ‘ makes in the *Netherlands*, and other Places; and
 ‘ that he would not defer the entering into such Alliances as may obtain those Ends; promising fully
 ‘ to assist his Majesty, if he should be engaged in a
 ‘ War in pursuance of such Alliances.’ Within three Days after the King’s Answer to this Address, *April* the 13th, the House made a third Address to assure his Majesty, that ‘ *They would with most cheerful Hearts* proceed both then and at all other
 ‘ Times, to furnish his Majesty with such large
 ‘ Supplies upon this Occasion, as might enable him,
 ‘ by God’s Assistance, to maintain the Alliances
 ‘ they had advised, against all Opposition whatsoever.’ This Address, upon the King’s Answer to it, was immediately followed by a fourth, *April* the 16th, assuring his Majesty of their Duty and Affection; and that he might not only depend upon the Supply he desired, but upon all such Assistance as the Posture of his Affairs required: ‘ In
 ‘ Confidence whereof, say the *Commons*, we hope
 ‘ your

‘ your Majesty will be encouraged, in the mean
 ‘ time, to speak and do such Things as your Majesty
 ‘ shall judge necessary, for attaining those great Ends
 ‘ we have formerly represented to your Majesty.’

These repeated Addresses from so loyal a House
 of Commons, and who only could support the King
 in the carrying on and effecting so good a Work,
 sufficiently shew the Sentiments of the whole Na-
 tion, and how much they were alarmed at the Dan-
 ger to which they saw the *Netherlands* exposed. It
 was not the Case of a Faction, bounded by parti-
 cular Views, but the evident Sense of the Nation,
 promulged by the Mouths of their Representatives,
 who were so clear in, and so intently bent on this
 Point, that they would take no Denial, nor could
 their being adjourn’d, in any Sense alter their Senti-
 ments: For on meeting again, May the 21st, they
 resolved to address his Majesty, *To enter into a*
League offensive and defensive with the STATES,
and to make other fit Alliances against the Growth and
Power of FRANCE, and for the Preservation of the
Spanish Netherlands; and tell his Majesty how high-
 ly sensible they are of the Necessity of supporting, as
 well as making the Alliances desired; which they
 say, ‘ We still conceive so important to the Safety
 ‘ of your Majesty and your Kingdom, that we
 ‘ cannot without Unfaithfulness to your Majesty and
 ‘ those we represent, omit upon all Occasions hum-
 ‘ bly to beseech your Majesty, as we now do, to
 ‘ enter into a *League offensive and defensive with the*
 ‘ *STATES.*’ And their Reasons for it were; ‘ The
 ‘ great Danger and Charge which must necessarily
 ‘ fall upon your Majesty’s Kingdom, if through
 ‘ want of timely Encouragement and Assistance,
 ‘ the *States*, or any other considerable Part of the
 ‘ *Confederates*, should make a Peace with the *French*
 ‘ *King*, which, if it should happen, your Majesty
 ‘ would be afterwards necessitated with fewer, perhaps
 ‘ no

' no Alliances, to withstand the Power of the *French*
 ' *King*, who has so long and so successfully contend-
 ' ed with so many and potent Enemies; and whilst
 ' he continues, his over-balancing Greatness must
 ' always be dangerous to his Neighbours; since he
 ' would be able to oppress any one Confederate
 ' before the rest could get together, and be in so
 ' good a Posture of offending him as they are now,
 ' being jointly engaged in a War; and if he should
 ' be so successful as to *make a Peace*, or *disunite the*
 ' *present Confederates against him*, it is much to be
 ' feared whether it would ever be possible to reunite
 ' it; *at least it would be a Work of so much Time and*
 ' *Difficulty as would leave your Majesty's Kingdoms ex-*
 ' *posed to much Misery and Danger.* Having thus
 ' discharged our Duty in laying before your Maje-
 ' sty, the Dangers threatening your Majesty and
 ' your Kingdoms, and the only Remedy we can
 ' think of for preventing it, and quieting the Minds
 ' of your People, we most humbly beseech your
 ' Majesty to take such Resolutions, *as may not leave*
 ' *it in the Power of any neighbouring Prince to rob*
 ' *your People of that Happiness they enjoy under your*
 ' *Majesty's gracious Government.*"

This earnest and importunate Address, presented
 May the 26th, not only express'd the Sense of a ve-
 ry full House, but of a whole Nation; and it seems
 as if they foresaw to what a future Expence and
 Trouble it would put the Nation, by not guarding
 in Time, against a Power determined to rise on the
 Ruin of its Neighbours, and which has but too fa-
 tally happened, and loaded us with Debts and
 Taxes, purely in our own Defence. This Address,
 with the Nation's Concurrence, had so much
 Weight, that the Court, the firm Friends of *France*,
 perceived they should be obliged to comply with it;
 and therefore to avoid so disagreeable an Act, the
 Parliament was prorogued, and did not meet again
 till

till the End of *January* 1674, in which Interval the *French* improved their Time; and the Nation thereby becoming more alarm'd; the Parliament, on the 31st of *January*, presented another Address, wherein, ' They humbly desire his Majesty, with
 ' the highest Zeal for the Honour and Safety of
 ' his People, not to admit of any Treaty, whereby
 ' the *French King* shall be left in Possession of any
 ' larger Dominions and Territories, or of any
 ' greater Power than what he retain'd by the PY-
 ' RENEAN TREATY, less than which they con-
 ' ceive can't secure his Majesty and the rest of *Eu-*
 ' *rope* from the Growth and Power of the said
 ' King: But that he alone may be able to disturb
 ' the Peace thereof, whensoever he is inclin'd to
 ' attempt it; and that in all Treaties, in order to
 ' the obtaining that End, his Majesty would be
 ' pleased to provide, that none of the Parties that
 ' shall join with him in making War for that Pur-
 ' pose, may lay down their Arms or depart from
 ' their Alliances, until the said King be reduced at
 ' least to the said Treaty.'—To this his Majesty
 answer'd, ' That he had made, according to their
 ' Desire, such Alliances with *Holland* as were neces-
 ' sary for the Preservation of *Flanders*; That since
 ' a good Peace could not be had by fair Means,
 ' it should not be his Fault if it were not obtain'd
 ' by Force of Arms; that if he be supported by
 ' them, he will not be weary till Christendom be
 ' restored to such a Peace as it shall not be in the
 ' Power of any Prince alone to disturb.—But his
 Majesty not having made any such Alliance, nor
 intending to make any such; and the Commons
 being determined to persevere, resolved upon, and
 presented *March* 14th, one other Address, ' That
 ' to quiet the Minds of his Subjects, and encourage
 ' the Confederates, he would be pleased immedi-
 ' ately to proclaim and enter into, an actual War
 ' against

' against the *French King, &c.*—The King there-
 upon prorogued the Parliament to the Middle of
April; thence to the 29th, when the Chancellor
 acquaints them in the King's Name, ' That the
 ' *States*, whom he had long found weary of the
 ' War, were making haste to get out of it, and
 ' were entred upon Considerations of accepting such
 ' a Peace as *France* had thought fit to offer, tho'
 ' it be without his Majesty's Consent or Privity; a
 ' Peace as ill for themselves and the rest of CHRISTEN-
 ' DOM as their *Enemies* could wish.'—And then
 most formally asks their Advice, which he never
 proposed to take, if opposed to the Views and In-
 terests of *France*. The Commons thereupon came
 to several Resolutions, and after stating the Affair in a
 very strong Light, persist in a War at all Events, but
 were put off by the King until the Peace was finished;
 who then comes and tells them he was absolutely of
 their Mind, and was ' resolved to save *Flanders* by
 ' a War or a Peace, as the greatest foreign Interest
 ' of this Nation, that Things seem'd already to
 ' to have determin'd in a Peace, at least as to
 ' *Spain* and *Holland*, that he is resolv'd to give his
 ' Guaranty to it, in the strongest Manner he is
 ' able; but that he could not tell how far that
 ' could go; for that they had already sent him
 ' Word, that unless *England* and *Holland* will both
 ' join in the Charge of maintaining *Flanders*, even
 ' after the Peace, the *Spaniards* will not be in a Con-
 ' dition of supporting it alone, and must fall into
 ' other Measures; that *France*, on the other Hand,
 ' will be left so great, that nothing abroad can treat
 ' with them hereafter upon an equal Foot, without
 ' the Hopes of being supported by this Crown;
 ' that tho' after the Supplies they had given towards
 ' a War, they may think the Peace an ill Bargain,
 ' perhaps they won't believe it so, if they consider
 ' that by it, so great a Part of *Flanders* is likely to

‘ be saved ; whereas without the Paces made towards a War, there is nothing so certain, as that the whole of it would have been absolutely lost that Campaign ; and I believe you would give much greater Sums than this will cost you, rather than the single Town of Ostend should be in the French Hands, and forty of their Men of War in so good a Haven over against the River’s Mouth.’

The Chicanery of all this, every Reader must necessarily understand, the instant he reads it ; but as my Views here, concern me only to shew what Opinion a Parliament of that Age, and even the King himself had, of the growing Power of *France* in *Flanders* ; so it is not my present Business to make any farther Remarks on the Conduct of a Court but too fatally attach’d to a *French* Interest. ’Tis very plain, so far, that the Views of *France* were the Possession of *Flanders*, and that it was the Interest of *England* to oppose them, both on the Reasons of the People and of the Prince ; and I think it will fairly follow, that if it appears that *France* continues her Pursuits down to this Time in the same Manner as from the Treaty of *Munster* ; (and indeed long before) that there still remains the same Reasons for opposing her exorbitant Growth, and consequently that to be at Peace with her, is to be gradually establishing our own Destruction.

The Reader will please to remember, we are now at the Year 1684, and the *French* in Possession of *Luxemburg*. On the 29th of *June* the same Year, *France* having got as much as she could well expect for the present, propos’d a Truce, in order the better to be in a Condition for acquiring more, by lulling her Neighbours asleep, under the Cover thereof, which effected, she broke with the Empire again, and in 1688 laid Siege to *Philipsburg*.

Providence,

Providence, which has been on all Emergencies extremely kind to this Island, now gave a Turn to the Affairs of *Europe*, the warmest Spirits could hardly have hop'd, by a Revolution here, that brought the Prince and People into one and the same Interest, and both into the general Interest of *Europe*; and which united after infinite Labour and Expence, put a full Stop to the Career of *France*.

This happy Revolution gave King *William* the Means of engaging divers Sovereigns to enter into a War that was absolutely necessary for procuring the Repose of *Europe*. That War determined by the Peace of *Reswick*, *September* 1697, which was the best that could be had in the then Situation of Things: By this Treaty *France* resigned to *Spain*, by the IVth Article, *Gironne*, *Rosès* and *Belver*. By the Vth, the City, Fortrefs and County of *Luxemburg*, and the County of *Chinay*, &c. By the VIth the Fortrefs of *Charleroy*, &c. By the VIIth, the City of *Mons* and the Town of *Aeth*, with their respective Chastellanies and Dependencies, except as therein is excepted, and the Sovereignty of the Province of *Hainault*. By the VIIIth the Town of *Courtray*, &c. By the IXth Article each Side are to restore what has been taken by the other. By the Xth *France* is to restore all Towns, &c. which she had seized and made Re-unions of since the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, in the Provinces of *Luxemburgh*, *Namur*, *Brabant*, *Flanders*, *Hainault*, and other Provinces of the *Netherlands*, according to a List of the said Re-unions to be produced by his Catholic Majesty, with various other Places condemned to *France* by the famous Jurisdiction of *Metz* (previously mentioned). By the XXXIst Article, the Town and Castle of *Dinant* to be restored to the Bishop and Prince of *Liege*.

By this Treaty we come more particularly to know what Seizures and Acquisitions *France* made in Breach of Treaties, since the Treaty of *Nimeguen*; and which she had established to herself by the aforesaid famous Jurisdiction, which *Spain* by the Treaty of *Reswick* reclaims.

A List and Declaration of the Reunions made by the Most Christian King, in the Provinces of his Catholick Majesty in the Low-Countries, since the Treaty of Nimeguen.

Province of LUXEMBURG.

F R A N C E possess'd itself of the Capital of that Name, and five and thirty Villages and Hamlets, named Provostships.

As also the Provostship of *Luxemburg*, consisting of three Benches of Justice, viz. *Kundrigh*, or Clemency, *Putlange*, and *Pettingen*.

Of the three Land Mayoralties, which are *Bettingen*, *Santweiles*, and *Reckien*; and of three Mayoralties, *Steinsel*, *Lingtgen*, and *Schiltelingen*, consisting together of Seventy-one Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle of *Bourge* and Signiory of *Radenmacheren*, with twenty Villages and their Dependencies.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Kesperange*, with four Villages.

Of *Ravil* and its Dependencies, consisting of seventeen Villages.

Of

Of the Castle and County of *Ruffy*, which contain eleven Villages.

Of the Castle and Bench of Justice of *Putlange*, consisting of fifteen Villages.

Of the Castle of the Signiory of *Praisib*, containing two Villages.

Of the Castle of *Agimont*, with its two Boroughs of *Givet*, and Hamlets depending thereon.

Of the Signiory of *Vilreux Walrand*.

Of the Territories and Signiories of the County of *Rocheford*, with four Villages.

Of the Castle and Provostship of *Orchimont*, containing *Vienne*, and twenty other Villages and ten Signiories within the Limits thereof.

Of the Signiories of *Chasse Pierre*, *Rivière*, *Fonsenoylle*, *Santa Cecilia*, *Leschles*, *Maniles*, *Lagnon le Bortiffe*, *Ban d'Oris*, *Marpan*, *Docbamps*, *Herbumont*, *le Ban de Bataillés*, *Ban de Masson*.

Of the County of *Montaign*, with thirteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of *Cheffu*, and the Provostship of *St. Mard*, with sixteen Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Lathour*, *Montquinting*, *la Vaux*, *Gommery*, *Bassail*, *Rouette*, and *Villers la Leup*.

Of the Town and County of *Cbiny*, with twenty seven Villages, Hamlets and Forges.

Of the Barony of *Jamaigne*, with five Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Neuchateau*, consisting of six and forty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Borough, Franchise, and Mayoralty of *Rennich*, with twenty-four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Bench of Justice of *Mackeren le Comte*, comprehending the Town and thirty-four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Wasser Billisb*.

Of

Of the Provostship of *Echternach*, containing the Town and thirty-three Villages and Hamlets; distinguished by four Mayoralties, viz. *Osweiler*, *Izzel*, *Crenben* and *Bollendorff*.

Of the Town and Provostship of *Biedburg*, consisting of the Franchise of *Dudeldorf* and thirty-four Villages.

Of the Town and Provostship of *Dickrick*, which comprehends a Town and six and twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Town and Provostship of *Arlon*, consisting of the Town and a hundred and twenty-nine Villages and Hamlets, making up fifteen Bans or Mayoralties, without comprehending the Forges and Furnaces.

Of the Signiory of *Pont des Oyes*, which contains two Villages, Hamlets and Forges.

Of the Mayor Town and Provostship of *Bastogne*, containing the Town and an hundred and forty-five Villages and Hamlets, consisting of ten Mayoralties.

Of the Town, Mayoralty, and Provostship of *Marbœ*, comprehending the Town and nineteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Town and Provostship of *Durbug*, which consists of the Town and seventy-six Villages and Hamlets, divided into four Courts and nineteen Signiories.

Of the County of *La Roche*, containing the Castle, Town, and one and fifty Villages and Hamlets, divided into four Mayoralties.

Of the Signiory of *Beaufanië*, with that of *Berlogne*, and two Villages, with their Dependencies.

Of the County of *Salm*, consisting of a Castle, Borough, and thirty-two Villages and Hamlets.

Of the County of *Vianden*, which comprehends the Castle, Town, and forty-nine Villages and Hamlets, divided into six Mayoralties, to which several

several other Castles and Lands are Homagers by way of Hindfiets.

Of the Land and Signiory of *St. Vith*, consisting of a Town and forty-seven Villages and Hamlets, divided between six Courts.

Of the Signiory of *Munster*, containing twenty-four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of Mount *St. Jean*, which consists of four Villages and Hamlets, with an old ruin'd Castle.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Differtange*, and *Sollure*, with three and twenty Villages and Hamlets, with their Dependencies.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Bertrange*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Dansenburg*, with three Villages depending thereon.

Of the Castles and Signiory of *Hollensiez*, with twelve Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Marfch*, with fourteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Pitange*, with sixteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Hesperange*.

Of the Signiory of *Arloncour*, with three Villages.

Of the Signiory of *Meissemburg*, with fifteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Fisbach*, with three Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Linster*, or *Linserc*, with nine Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Effingen*.

Of the Signiory of *la Rochette*, with the Ruins of an old Castle, and fifteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Keringen*, with two Villages or Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Beaufort*, with eleven Villages and Hamlets.

Of

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Berbourg*, with eleven Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Herberenne* and *Montach*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Rueland*, with twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Ouren*, with six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Clairvaux*, with four and forty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and County of *Wiltz*, with three and twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Esch*, or *Aise*, consisting of two and twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory *Bourgsbeilt*, with twelve Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Town, Castle, and Signiory of *New-Warbourg*, with fifty-two Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Franchise of *Waswiller*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Brandenbourg*, with six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Keyll*, with three Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Falckenstem*, with three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Betzingen*, with nine Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Ham*, with four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Brouch*, with twelve Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Malberg*, with three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Rospoxte*, with six Villages and Hamlets.

Of

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Mirceart*, with one and twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Focan*, with three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Rachampt*, with one Village and Hamlet.

Of the Signiory of *Ayvaille*, with eight Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Harret*, with three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Baseille*.

Of the Signiory of *Cbene*, with three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Witry*, with four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Uffedange*, with eighteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Aubel*, with six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Gersch*, with fifteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Koerich*, with five Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Seven Fountains*, with ten Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Wirickren*, with six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Land and Signiory of *St. Hubert*, with a Borough and six Mayoralties.

Of the Signiory of *Walcbinger* and *Lanzen*.

Of the Town, Castle and Signiory of *Schleiden*, with thirty-six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Cronenburg*, with thirteen Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Manderscheit*, with the Villages and Dependencies.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Schiriflet*, consisting of two Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Court of *Tommen*, containing two and twenty Villages and Hamlets.

Of *Haceville*, which, consists of three Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Meerstorf*, with three Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Holremburg*, with two Villages.

Of *Sterpigny*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Apsbourg*, consisting of thirty-four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Sinffled*, consisting of four.

Of *Scarfflichen*, twelve Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Dome* and *Dentbourg*, containing four Villages and Hamlets.

Of *Mebret Bettenfelt*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Soby*.

Of *Ban Desclassin*, consisting of three Villages and Hamlets.

Of *Redu*.

Of *Esclaye*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Barin*, consisting of five Villages and Hamlets, comprehending therein *Dionvaux*, tho' France hath annex'd it to the Territory of *Agimont*.

Of *Hansurlasse*, containing three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Houffalize*, containing three Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Wibren*, with two Villages.

Of *Humain*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Walia*, consisting of two Villages.

Of the Signiory of *Baude*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Soi*, consisting of six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Diverdis*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Jeneppe*.

Of the Castle and Signiory call'd *Duchain*, consisting of six Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Rollet*, consisting of nine.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Mount Jardin*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Jevigny*, which consists of six.

Of the Signiory of *Mompre*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Laval*, of three.

Of *Villars la Loup*.

Of *Cbesnoy*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Cuette la Grand*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Soignel St. Remy*, consisting of two Villages.

Of the Signiory of *Ville Haimont*, consisting of nine Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Villars devant Orval*.

Of the Signiory of *St. Mary*.

Of the Signiory of *Orval*, with four Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Dorchereffe*.

Of the *Vanee*, which consists of two Villages.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Boulogne*, containing five.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Herbemont*, containing seven.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Everlange*, consisting of nine Villages and Hamlets.

Of the Signiory of *Nassoigne*.

Of the Castle and Signiory of *Grune*.

Of the Provostship of *Estal*, consisting of fourteen Villages and Hamlets, divided into three Mayoralties.

The Territory and Signiory of *St. Hubert*, consisting of six Mayoralties or Fealties, with several Villages depending thereon.

N A M U R.

France since the Treaty of *Nimeguen* hath seiz'd in the Province of *Namur*, the Provostship of *Poilvache*, which contains the following Mayoralties, Bans, Lands, Territories, Villages and Hamlets.

The Mayoralty of *Rendarche*, consisting of these Villages,

Of *Lustin*, *Malien*, *Leurier*, with its Castle ; *Sorinne* the long, *Assesse*, *Jassoigne*, *Wauremont*, with its Castle.

The Hamlets of the Castle of *Roncinne d' Ivoix*.

The Castle of *Assesse*, the Castle of *Estray*, *Corioul*, *Porin d' Assesse*, *Brochan*, *Millier*, the Lands of *Jasloigney*.

The Mayoralty of *Emptines*, containing the Villages of *Emptines*, *Emptinelle*, and *Hattoy*.

And the Hamlets of *Franceffe le Gaillard les Fontaines*, *Champilliou le Sarts*.

The Mayoralty of *Falmaigne*, including the Village.

Of *Falmaigne*, the Castle of *Tbiry* depending thereon, which is demolished, and *Hulsoniaux*.

Ban of *Lignon*, consisting of Villages and Hamlets.

Of *Lignon*, *Chapoyonchipe*, *Ronvaux*, *Corbion*, and *Barfinable*.

Ban of *Soy*, viz. the Village of *Soy*, and *Mobilville* its Dependent.

The Territory and Barony of *Gefves*.

The Hamlets, *Houyous*, the Forges, Farm of *Cbamont*, *Pourin*, *Preit d'Hamide*, *Houde*, and *Frainesse*, all dependent on the said Territory of *Gefves*.

Particular Villages depending also upon the said Provostship.

Oriay and *Reppe*, with their Dependencies, *Wal-lay*, *Hallyot* and *Cbaltin*, with the Hamlets of *Mai-bes*

bes and *Frisee* as Dependencies, *Valin Hourèn sachine*, *Sorinee* on the *Dinant*, *Boisfalle*; Village and Castle of *Spontin*, and the Hamlets of *Durnalle*, *Myanoye* and *Dorinne* in dependence, *Ivesne*, *Filec*, *Hodemont*, with the Hamlet of *Jullet* in dependence, *Hargnies*, the two *Bourseignes*, viz. the new and the old, *Maisnil*, *Saint Blaise*, *Haibes* and *Pandrome*.

The Forests of *Auwez*, *Comisse*, *Lasche*, *Lerbois*, the little and great *Fail*, which consists of between seven and eight hundred Cops, belonging to his Majesty, as also some Duties, Tithes, Rents, Taxes, and other Revenues of his Domain, which were seized in the Months of *November* and *December*, 1681.

France also in the Year 1682 seiz'd on the Forests of the higher and lower *Arche*.

And towards the Month of *April* 1680, the Priory of *Hastier* upon the Side of the *Meuse*.

The Mayoralty of *Hour*, which contains the Villages of *Hour Sous Poitvache*, *Iwar*, *Eurebaille*, *Jodinne Lisoigne*, *Purnot*, *Awaigue*, and the Hamlets of *Bauche*, *Jayolle*, *Futvoy*, *Venatte*, *Champalle*, *Hugomont*, *Bloimont*, *Montchavée*, *Frapeuli*, *Fresne*, *Tailfer*, *Seignioul*, *Loys* and *Loyers*.

The Mayoralty of *Bovignes*, which comprehends the Town and Franchise of *Bovignes*, some Houses on both Sides, with the great Custom of *Metz*, and fifteen or sixteen Houses opposite to the said Town, on the other Side of the *Dinant*.

The Mayoralty of *Antbee*, consisting of the Villages of *Antbee*, the Height *la Vastia*, *Riviere*, *Sommerie*, *Melin*, *Marinne*, and *Orbaye*.

And of the Hamlets of the little Custom-house of *Metz*, *Grange*, *Rostenne*, *Obept*, *Hentoir*, with its Castle, *Chestrevin*, *Vespin*, *Flun*, *Welin*, and *Serenne*.

The Bailiwick of *Bovignes*, between the *Sambre* and the *Maeze*, which contains the following Bans, Lands, Abbies, Castles, Villages and Hamlets.

The

The Ban of *Waulsoir*, containing
The Villages and Abbies of *Waulsoir*, *Lulme*,
Hastir la Vaux, and *Hastir* beyond the *Gerin*,
And the Hamlets of *Ermetton* on the *Maex*,
Mount *Ostemree*, *Stair*, and *Ponrenne*.

The Ban of *Antbee*, containing
Antbee, *Mianoye*, *Morville*, and *Fontaine* with
its Castle.

The Land and Franchise of *Biesme la Colonoise*,
consisting of the Villages of *Biesme*, *Heversee*, *Pree*,
Wagnies, *Orest*, *Sart*, *Astache* and *Gognies*.

The Territory of *Gerpinne*, which contains the
Village and Borough of *Gerpinne*.

And the three Hamlets of *Alle Flage*, *Fromignee*,
and *Imignee*.

The Territory of *Thy*,
Which consists of the Villages of *Thy*, with its
Castle, *Sansee*, *Chastrer*, *Jourdinne*, *Turfinne*, and
Feroule.

And the Hamlets of *Maisnil*, *le Lievre*, and
Vouerie de Rabusee.

The particular Villages depending upon the Bai-
liwick of *Boignes*, *Flawion*, *Rossee*, with its Ham-
lets of *Jusenne*, *Biesmeree*, *Ermetton* upon the *Bierre*,
Stave, *Steir*, *Mertiennne*, *Fontenelle*, Part of *Chatil-
lon Mattignol*, *Romree*, *Feppin*, *Bersee* with its
Castle, *Acos* with its Castle, *Villers la Potterie*, *Jo-
neret Fourmeau*, *Serville*, *Avelay*, *Arbre*, *Profonde-
ville*, *Lefoes*, *Bioulx*, *Graux*, *Romignee*, *Messe*, *Re-
selle*, *Rosiere*, and the Wood of *Villers*.

The Bailiwick of *Montaigle*, which consists of
the following Villages and Hamlets.

The Ruins of the old Castle of *Montaigle*, *Falean*,
Montaigle Town, the Forge at *Mantaigle*, *Salet*,
Fain, *Corbay*, *Henemont*, *Warnant*, *Hun*, *Enwaye*,
Rouillon, the Furnaces, Forges, and Founding-
houses of *Molin* and *Abbaye*.

The

The Mayoralty of *St. Gerard*, which contains the Village of *Braigne*, with the Monastery.

The Hamlets of *Maison*, *Gemois*, *Sofoye*, *Maredret*, the Custom-houses of *Montigny*, *Libinne*, *Beboude*, and *Heraude*.

Bans or Places between the *Sambre*, and the *Maesz*.

The Village of *Fala*, the Hamlets of *Hoye*, *Afolz*, and *Wepion*.

Between the *Sambre* and the *Maesz*, and the Dependencies of this Province, are also included the Forests of the higher and lower *Marlaigne*, which contain four thousand and three hundred *Bonniers* and upwards: The Forest of *Biert*, and its Dependencies, fifteen hundred and ninety; the Wood of *Biesme*, with *Halloy*, and the old Furnace, with other Appurtenances, five hundred and forty *Bonniers*; with the Tithes, Tolls, Rents, and several other Domains and Revenues belonging to his Majesty, with several Fiefs depending upon the Castle of *Namur*.

France after the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, in order to possess the Town of *Walcourt* and the Village of *Bioulx*, (even after the Treaty for a Truce) caused Pallisadoes to be put up in the Neighbourhood of the Castle of *Namur*, under Pretence that they had extended their Possession before the said Truce as far as the said Village: But that these Pales might be remov'd, and Bounds fix'd, the *Spaniards* by the Treaty made at *Philipville*, on the 4th of Jan. 1687. were oblig'd to leave *France* in Possession of the said Town of *Walcourt*, and of the said Village of *Bioulx*, on the same Terms, Forms, and Conditions, as *France* by the said Truce continued to enjoy all the Places, she had occupy'd since the Treaty of *Nimeguen*: Which particular Treaty made at *Philipville*, shall be void by the Treaty of Peace now propos'd.

HAYNAULT.

HAYNAULT.

The Principality and Provostship of *Chimay*, with the Villages, Hamlets, and Rights dependent thereon, viz.

The Town of *Chimay*.

St. Remy.

Forges.

Bourlez.

Boutonville.

Bailiore.

Villers la Tour.

Salles.

Baileux.

Vièlles.

Lampret.

Sceloigne.

Robechies.

Bauwez.

Montmignies.

Macon.

Imbreches.

Monceau.

Estrocing la Cauchie, and its Hamlets.

Feron.

La Roulie.

The Provostship of *Beaumont*, with its Dependencies and Appurtenances, which consist of the Towns of

Beaumont.

Berfillies.

De Leval.

Thirimot.

Solre St. Gery.

Grandieu & Frallies.

Sivry.

Froidchapelle & Fourbechies

Rance.

Monbliart.

Cerfontaine.

Ferieres les Grandes.

Rosier.

Beaufort & Robechies.

Grandreng.

Rocque.

Leunies.

The Town of *Chievries*.

Villages seiz'd.

Part of the Bourgade of *Antbony*, *Fontenoy*, *Veron*, *Vaux*, *Moubray*, and *Brasmanil*.

The Villages of *Maulde*, *Pipaix*, *Giffignies* in the *Pipaix*, *Rocourt*, *Wermes*, Parish of *Wieres*, *Ogimont*, *Seigneurieul*, little *Quesnoy* at *Pottes*, *Bourgeon*, Parish of *Fontenay*, *Grammetz*, and Parish of *Thieulain*,

lain, Part of *Antbony* reputed free Land, *le Breuch*
a forest, *Mourcourt*, *Herinas*, *Wafmes* and *Lignette*.

The Town of *Novo*, *Mountain*, the Village of
Boiverelles, and six hundred *Bonniers*, or Inclosures.

The Villages of *Anderlues*, the Abby of *Aumont*
and *Bouffiere*, with the Farms of *Warnemieux*, Fo-
rest, and the Tax on the Wood.

FLANDERS.

The Town of *Renaix*.

The Town of *Loo*.

The Town of *Roulers*.

And the Villages of *Meuregem*, *Waterloet*, *Ven-*
deville, *Templemars*, *Billau*, and the Castle of *la*
Motte in the Wood, with its Dependencies.

The Wood of *Nieppe*.

The Wood of *Ostbult*.

B R A B A N T.

The Territory of *Ayseau* with its Appennages,
which consists of several Hamlets, particularly that
of *Oignies*, with the Cloyster of the same Name,
and Part of the Village of *Monceau*.

The Minister of his Catholick Majesty demands,
That his Most Christian Majesty should quit the
Possession of every thing he has seiz'd since the
Treaty of *Nimeguen*, even of every Particular be-
foremention'd, and any thing else he may have seiz'd
since the said Treaty, tho' not set down, or specify'd
by Name in this List; and that his Catholick
Majesty may be restor'd and put into the real and
actual Possession of the same, as he was before the
said Treaty of *Nimeguen*: the Whole without pre-
judicing the Rights of his Catholick Majesty, in
reference to other Seizures made by *France*, and
which have not been yielded up to the Most Chri-

F

stian

stian King by the said Treaty of *Nimeguen*, or any other preceding Treaty.

A List of Places excepted, which the French Ambassadors pretend to keep.

The Town of <i>Chievres</i> .	<i>Maircourt.</i>
Part of the Bourgade of <i>Anthony</i> .	<i>Herinnes.</i>
<i>Fontenoy,</i>	<i>Wames.</i>
<i>Vezon,</i>	<i>Lignette.</i>
<i>Vaux,</i>	<i>Timicelles, and 600 Bon-</i>
<i>Maubray,</i>	<i>niers, or Inclosures.</i>
<i>Bramenil,</i>	<i>Renaix.</i>
<i>Pipay.</i>	The Town of <i>Loo.</i>
<i>Giffignies in Pipay.</i>	The Town of <i>Roulers.</i>
<i>Rocour.</i>	The Village of <i>Meuregem.</i>
<i>Wermes, the Parish of Vie-</i>	The Borough of <i>Water-</i>
<i>res.</i>	<i>liet.</i>
<i>Ogimont.</i>	The Village of <i>Templemars.</i>
<i>Signeurieul.</i>	The Hamlet of <i>Wander-</i>
Little <i>Quesnoy in Potes.</i>	<i>ville.</i>
<i>Bourgeon, the Parish of</i>	<i>Billau.</i>
<i>Fontenoy.</i>	The Castle of <i>la Motte</i> in
<i>Gramets.</i>	the Wood, with its Te-
<i>Fermont, the Parish of</i>	nures.
<i>Thieulain.</i>	The Wood of <i>Nieppe.</i>
<i>La Breuech in the Forests.</i>	The Wood of <i>Outbult.</i>

The Dependencies of *Charlemont.*

<i>Agimont.</i>	<i>Winenne.</i>
<i>Givets, Town of St. Hil-</i>	<i>Landricchamp.</i>
<i>lary.</i>	<i>Finevaux.</i>
<i>Givets Nostre Dame.</i>	<i>Feichaux.</i>
<i>Vosnette.</i>	<i>Ferauche.</i>
<i>Felaine.</i>	<i>Javeingue.</i>
<i>Dion le Mont.</i>	<i>Aviette.</i>
	<i>Charneux.</i>

<i>Charneux.</i>	<i>Vireux de Wallerand.</i>
<i>Flobimont.</i>	<i>Villersies.</i>
<i>Promelaine.</i>	<i>Rienne.</i>
<i>Felix Pret Abbaye de Filles.</i>	<i>Old Boursoigne.</i>
<i>Remetbon sur Bierre.</i>	<i>New Boursoigne.</i>
<i>Savry.</i>	<i>Hargnies.</i>
<i>Gauchenee.</i>	<i>Hebbes.</i>
<i>Her.</i>	<i>Vaussions Abbey, and the</i>
<i>Herlet.</i>	<i>two Hastires.</i>
<i>Lisicourt.</i>	<i>Ermeton upon the Maex.</i>
<i>Raufenne.</i>	<i>Mattignol.</i>
<i>Maboux.</i>	<i>Romeree.</i>
<i>Maison Saille.</i>	<i>Bertie.</i>
<i>Mainil St. Blaise.</i>	<i>Feslin.</i>

Places and Dependencies upon the Provostship of
Maubeuge.

<i>Tirimont.</i>	<i>Le Feron.</i>
<i>Bersillies Abbey.</i>	<i>La Voulie.</i>
<i>The Vale under Beaumont.</i>	<i>Beaufort.</i>
<i>Cerfontaine.</i>	<i>Aumont Abbey.</i>
<i>Roy on the Sambre.</i>	<i>Boissiere.</i>
<i>Etain.</i>	

The Reader will by this at first Sight imagine that *France* was become very humble; but the contrary is very evident: For *Lewis XIV.* when he gave up these Provinces, Towns and Dependencies to *Spain*, had form'd a Plan for making the *Dauphin* King of *Spain*, immediately after the Death of *Charles II.* which he effected by dextrously drawing in *King William* and the *Dutch* into the famous Partition Treaty; by causing the Allies to lay down their Arms; and by dividing their Interest. So that instead of giving up any Thing by the Treaty of *Reswick*, he laid the Foundation of a more extensive Acquisition; of such a one, that had not Providence favour'd our Arms beyond Example, 'tis very probable that not only *Flanders*, but also

both *Spain* and *Holland* had been united to the Crown of *France*, and then 'tis very obvious in what a Situation *England* had been. From these Premises, may we not fairly draw this Conclusion, That *France* has at all Times aim'd at the increasing her Dominion over her Neighbours, and by one settled, regular, and well connected Plan, endeavoured to destroy their Independancy? And is it not very plain that the Road she takes of *Flanders* is purely with more Ease to get at the Dominion of *Britain*? Can any Man in his Senses doubt the End when the Means are so obvious and evident? And if this be the true Way of judging, on what kind of Principles do those Men reason, who say that a Land-War with *France* is only made on account of *Hanover*, when it is as clear as Light that *Britain* is more materially concerned to stop the growing Power of *France* than any other Nation under the Sun? If *Hanover* was conquer'd the People would be not less Slaves than now, at worst could only change their Masters; but if *England* suffers herself to fall under a foreign Dominion, our Laws, Liberties and Independency are gone for ever, our Trade and Religion sacrificed, the Glory of our Ancestors buried in Oblivion, and future Times will forget we ever were a Nation.

Our *Frenchified Englishmen* make use of various Pleas to disturb the Serenity of our Minds, and to give us Cause of Inquietude, in particular Debts and Taxes; but does it not most evidently appear, that all our Debts and Taxes are purely owing to the Power of *French* Influence here in the Reigns of *Charles II.* and *James II.* and will they pretend now to throw that on the Revolution, which was a Cause so evidently previous, and so contrary to the Sense of the Nation, and so strongly represented? Will the keeping of our Wealth, and letting *France* have the Dominion of our Country, be the preserving
of

of our Wealth? And is not the contrary as obvious as common Sense can make it? And did not both the Prince, Parliament, and People always think the same? The Revolution plainly preserved us from Destruction, and the happy Success of our Arms consequent thereof, was a just Foundation of our future Peace, Wealth and Happiness; had not the same People who now are labouring for *France*, destroy'd, by an ill-tim'd Peace, all the Benefit of our glorious Successes; and yet with uncommon Impudence, and with a Spirit of Mischief which nothing but the Ruin of their Country can satisfy, in the Face of Day, in Defiance of the Justice of the Nation and common Sense, roar out against the Necessity of a War which only can preserve us a free and happy People.

Will any Man who has the least Grain of Honour or Regard for his Country left, presume to say, that the Views of *France* have not a very evident Tendency to the Destruction of *Britain*, when every Step taken for these hundred Years past so plainly shew it? And because we have always, when we have been good to ourselves, by being unanimous, preserv'd our own Independency, by beating the *French* wherever we met them fairly; shall we calmly resign, by a wicked and inglorious Peace, our Honour, Interest, Commerce, Liberty and Independency to a Nation, whom, when just to ourselves, we have the best Reasons in the World to despise, and when only a Peace can give us Chains, and finish our Destruction.

The generality of Mankind don't care for the Trouble of reasoning on Subjects not immediately apparent, they don't readily conceive what the *French* Acquisitions in *Flanders*, &c. have to do with *England*; but it is the same in all Cases that require Attention; a fine Picture or a beautiful Woman, may and does pass unnoticed by Thousands,

where one duly regards either of them : 'Tis exactly the same Case in public Affairs; until the Object is so strongly represented to them, that they can't help attending to it, 'tis then, and then only, that they come to consider Things as they ought, and wonder they did not find it out before. In this Interval of Inattention, they are entertained by the *French* Agents with Puppet-Shews and Buffooneries. And this still carries them further away from the more important Objects. The main Object before us now, is the Importance of preserving *Flanders*, and having an Ally at the Head of the *Empire*. These are the Barriers of *Britain*, as much as the Fortifications of *Portsmouth* are its Defence; if these are destroyed, our Country is thrown open and exposed to daily Invasions. Who is there that lives in the North of *England*, would not rather have an Enemy's Army in the South, than on the Confines of their own County, and rather fight them there than suffer them to approach nearer home? Had the old *Britons* understood this Policy, 'tis highly probable that the *Roman Annals* had never furnished us with an Account of their Conquests here. If People would but extend their Imaginations a very little beyond their own Estates, they would readily enough conceive that *Flanders* and *Holland* are our Barriers, preserved for us at other Peoples Expence, and that consequently, the least we can do when they are attack'd, is to contribute in some measure to their Defence, unless they will conclude, every Body is obliged to guard us on all Accounts at their own Expence, because 'tis partly their Interest so to do. There is one Thing appears to me extremely obvious; and that is, if the *French* in their present Situation can put us to all the Expence complain'd of, how much more will they be able to do it, by being suffered to make rich Acquisitions? Will it not plainly follow, that if we suffer them to grow,

by

by our peaceable Dispositions, more rich and powerful, that we must in the Event either improve our Expence, or submit to be Slaves? To what Purpose is it then, that we are told War is a Burden, other than that we may submit to an inglorious Peace, and become gradually Slaves? The Weight of our Taxes and increasing Debts are obviously enough an Evil; but they are a much less Evil than what must consequently follow our tamely submitting to suffer the House of *Bourbon's* improving their Acquisitions, because the more Power that House acquires, the nearer our Destruction is at hand. For can any Man, rightly in his Senses, conceive that House will be less an Enemy to *Britain* when they have it more in their Power. In common Life, where there is much more Humanity and Regard to our Fellow-Creatures, than in the Cabinets of Princes, more especially of the House of *Bourbon*, we daily see in the Cases of Contests at Law about Rights and Properties, that the Riches and Opulence of the one Side, is but too evidently the Ruin or Distress of the other; and what is to be expected better in public Affairs, between Nations whose Enmity has existed co-equal with our Records. If by coming down to the Treaty of *Reswick* I have not shewn enough to illustrate the Argument, I shall, for the full Satisfaction of my Readers, bring the *French* History down to the present Instant, which I hope will so fully determine the Impartial and *Unfrenchified*, in a true and settled Idea of the real Interest of the Nation, as may not for the future be capable of being eradicated by the most artful and pernicious Insinuations of the determin'd Enemies of our State and Nation.

The Treaty of *Reswick* was followed by the Treaty of *Partition*; which by those who then unhappily saw only one Side of the Question, seemed
very

very advantageous to the Allies ; but to others it seem'd, even then, very unaccountable that the *French*, who had the Advantage in the Field, and their Arms in their Hands, should on a sudden give up more, than they would willingly have done, or ever did do, when most distress'd. This was the grand Stroke of Policy, which out-did all the Refinements of *Lewis XIVth's* Reign. His Views were by this Treaty to divide the Allies, to separate the Maritime Powers and the Elector of *Bavaria* from the House of *Austria*, who he had very good Reason to believe would never agree to it ; because by the Grand Alliance they were not to make Peace till the Treaties of *Westphalia*, *Osnaburg*, *Munster* and the *Pyrennees* were established, which was evidently not done by the Treaty of *Partition* ; and consequently the House of *Austria* deceived, which was no Argument of future Friendship.— And *France* having by this Means weakned the House of *Austria*, and engaged the Maritime Powers to acknowledge the Elector of *Bavaria's* Title to the Crown of *Spain*, notwithstanding the Renunciation of his Mother the Arch-duchess thereto, upon her Marriage with his Father ; the House of *Bourbon* could then the better set up the Dauphin, who was nearer allied in Blood than the Elector, and better able to support his Title. This, added to the Will procured to be made in the Dauphin's Favour, brought back into the Power of the House of *Bourbon* all she had given away by the Treaty of *Partition*, with the Kingdom of *Spain* and its Appendages into the Bargain, extended their Dominion into three Seas, and vested them in Maritime Coasts equal to all the rest of *Europe*. This single Period therefore, prov'd of more Importance to the House of *Bourbon* than all their Acquisitions and Robberies for an Age preceeding ; and has produced Consequences that few then living perhaps dream'd

dream'd of, and which are at this Day but too obvious. This single Error did more undesignedly, than either the Good-will of *Charles* and *James* were capable of effecting; and confirm'd that Power in the House of *Bourbon*, so difficult now to be oppos'd, and so dangerous to our Safety and Tranquillity. The War succeeding, was attended with every favourable and unexpected Omen, of bringing the Power of that House again a little more on a Level with the rest of *Europe*; but by the same Fatality which now governs the Minds of the secret Enemies of the Nation, all the glorious Successes of that War ended in nothing but deep Debts and a ridiculous Peace. We were certainly then better circumstanced than now to carry on the War, because we had then, a better General, better Officers, and an Army accustomed to Victory, and both the Army and Revenues of *France* in effect ruined; we then certainly could have commanded, what now we must labour hardly for; and had that been duly and honestly prosecuted, we probably should not have had a potent Enemy to have contended with at this Time of Day; and therefore those People who idly exclaim against the War now, must consider, if they are not the very same People who occasioned it, and rendered that necessary, which otherwise would very probably have been quite out of the Question.

The Success of the late War, in some Degree, retriev'd us from the wilful Pursuits and unhappy Measures of preceeding Times, even with the Peace of *Utrecht* at the Tail of it; but by not being pursued to Effect, could not curb the growing Power of the House of *Bourbon*, so far as in any respect to make it honest. *Dunkirk* was demolished, and the *Dutch* Barrier in some Measure established, but we now too fatally see how much either we or the *Dutch* are to depend on the Faith of Treaties, with

a Family unaccustomed to behonest : For altho' the very Safety of *France*, and the Preservation of the House of *Bourbon* absolutely depended on our granting such a Peace, whereby we only, for our own Safety in particular, required the Demolition of one Fortrefs, yet even that was only in Part complied with for the present, and on the first Opportunity re-established. After this, with what Assurance can those who dare to call themselves *Englishmen*, exclaim against a War, when the common Enemies of the Nation, whose sole View is to make all her Neighbours Slaves, has not only restored *Dunkirk*, but likewise, without declaring War against the *Dutch*, seized some of their Barrier Towns, and is now on the Point of carrying the most important of them all ; that is, pushing for Sea coast to face us with more Convenience, and to render any future Attempts on our Commerce and Liberties more easy and practicable.

These Men, whoever they be, that reason against the present War, in Defiance of the plainest Lights, want not the Appearance of Reason to furnish out an Argument : If Debts, Taxes, and *Hanover* won't go down with those who have other Thoughts of the Matter, their last Resource is to the favourite of the People, the Navy ; on this Topic they talk to their Passions, and therefore are not under the same Necessity of Reasoning, as if they spoke to their Understandings ; they do not inform them of the Importance of a Barrier on the Continent, nor endeavour to convince them that the Distance of a Frontier, makes it not the less, but the more a Frontier for our Safety ; they do not tell them the Advantage of being guarded against an inveterate Enemy, at the Expence of the Blood and Treasure of others ; but, on the contrary, observing them too short-sighted to see across the Channel, they constitute that our natural Boundary, and from thence
wisely

wisely conclude, that our Navy is alone our proper Guard. This is no sooner said than believed, and by waving all Regard to past Experience, and the Dictates of common Sense, most judiciously conclude, that the wild Imaginations of one assuming Pamphleteer or News Writer, is of more Importance, and better considered, than all the Acts and Opinions of our Predecessors put together. This wretched Way of thinking puts us under all the Disadvantages our Enemies could either hope or wish, reduces us into a Condition infinitely to be pitied, and makes us forget we were born to be reasonable Creatures. The Glory, Honour and Safety of our Country is by this Means banished from amongst us, and instead thereof is substituted in our Minds, a tame Submission to such pitiful Enemies as our Forefathers would have spurn'd with Contempt. That we are bounded by the Ocean is very true; that our Navy is essential to our Preservation, as true; and that it merits every Encouragement, no Man living disputes: But this is not what these Men mean. To this End, there needs no Oratory; all Men are agreed in it: What they mean is, that we should suffer ourselves to be push'd to the last Gasps by our Enemies, and so be put to the Hazard of a Sea-fight, whether our Liberties shall be our own, or whether we shall give them tamely up to those who meditate our Destruction. They don't tell the People, that Power at Sea is founded on Opulence at Land, and that when the Enemy is Master of the Coast round us, he will have both Leisure, Will, and Ability to overpower us at Sea. That this is his plain and obvious Tendency, and that he refuses present Contention on the Ocean, purely that he may keep his Strength together, in order to be more assuredly prepared to carry his Point, when a fair Opportunity presents; when all around him are become his Slaves, and no-

thing left for him to conquer but *Britain*. These are Considerations too extended for those whose Passions and Prejudices are only to be talk'd to, and whose Poorness of Thought renders them ready to imbibe Sentiments ever so weak and silly.

The Reader will here please to consider, that the Reason and Necessity of a War is one Thing, and the Conduct of it another : But the Misfortune is, that they are generally blended together, and imposed on the Populace for one and the same Thing; for which Reason, if it has not the expected Success, they immediately conclude it bad, as if the Rectitude of Counsels depended on the Event; yet no body that thinks a Moment, or reasons at all, but readily perceives the Distinction. Nor is any Thing more clear than that, if the Event always answer'd the Justice or Dishonesty of our Views, Disputes would soon cease. But, say these cunning Reasoners, there are two Kinds of Rectitude, *viz.* the Honest and the Political; that honest Views are not always to be pursued, when the political don't readily tally with them; and therefore, however just it may be to oppose the Power of *France*, yet as it will load us with Debts and Taxes, 'tis better for us to lye quiet, and see the Event of her Progress, since we need at last only do that which does not at present seem quite so necessary; and therefore in acting otherwise, however honest our Views may be, they are not political. But if such Reasoners were only ask'd, suppose you liv'd in *Northamptonshire*, and a determin'd Enemy had taken *London*, and was coming down with all his Force bending towards you; would you join your Friends and meet the Enemy at a Distance from your own Estate, or wait for him there? Would a Man of common Sense hesitate a Moment on the Alternative? Suppose again, for Suppositions sake, that you have not so good Officers now, as in the late War;

War ; and consequently your Affairs nothing near so well conducted ; is it possible to make them better, or properer to defend us, by keeping them at home, Strangers to the Art of War ? If therefore the Foundation of a War with *France* be just, it is likewise attended by political Rectitude ; the first, I hope, is sufficiently shewn ; and the last I conceive will prove itself.

To be Masters of the Art of War, is the Consequence of Time and Experience, and which, like all other Sciences, is only to be attained by both Labour and Expençe ; it very much concerns the Nation that it be attain'd, that not only our superior but inferior Officers and common Soldiers, be skilful in and inur'd to the Art and Business of War ; because our Enemies do so, we must ; otherwise we are not on a Parity with them, and consequently at their Mercy. If the War be an Expençe to us, 'tis at least equally so to the Enemy ; and 'tis better at all Events to be at that Expençe, which by duty denying ourselves a few Superfluities, can be easily borne, than to be robb'd of our Properties, and idly submit to become Slaves.

Our *Frenchify'd* Reasoners argue, that we can't support the War long, and that then we must give up all in Course. But who, except a *Frenchman*, could tell them so ? For it is so far from being difficult to support a War, that it may with great Facility be supported without the least additional Tax or Incumbrance on the Wealth of the Nation, during the whole Course of it, by various Means, as obvious as proper, and by such Means as ought to support it. But, as I observed before, the War is one Thing, and the Conduct another ; 'tis therefore very clear, that if the Nation has any Reason to complain, it is of the Want of Skill and Conduct in both the Civil and Military, but can in no Sense impeach either the Justice or Necessity of the War ;

War ; and is consequently extremely unjust to turn our Eyes to a Point that cannot in any Sense reflect on our Conduct. These Reasoners may truly enough reply, But if we want private Conduct, we are thereby divested of the Means of carrying on the War : Whereto I answer, But that is no Reason for mistaking one Point for another, or blending two together which are different. If there is any just Reason to complain of our private Conduct, let them speak to that Point as well as they can, and thereby endeavour to get it rectified ; but to rail against the War, which is our only Resource and Preservation, is ridiculous, or wicked, or both ; because it is just, natural and necessary, to defend ourselves in the best Manner we are able.

We have seen by Examples past Dispute, the Tendency of the *French* Councils and Pursuits ; they have been gaining upon us, both in the Field and the Cabinet, for at least a Century past ; they are still plainly directed by the same Views ; to make Treaties with them amounts to nothing ; they break them as soon almost as made, and only make them more conveniently to answer some sinister Purpose. It is not the Treaties of *Munster*, the *Pyreneus*, *Nimeguen*, or *Reswick* ; but the *Partition Treaty*, *Peace of Utrecht* and *Pragmatick Sanction*, that expresses how little Treaties are to be depended on ; they have shown upon all Occasions they are heartily our Enemies, and extend their Frontiers towards us, as fast as they are able. The *Dutch Barrier*, like *Dunkirk*, one would have thought should have been sacred, considering that *France* itself was, by consenting to the Establishment of the one, and Ruin of the other, preserved from Destruction ; yet is there no Ties so strong, no Principles, tho' ever so just ; not Generosity, Honour, Conscience, Treaties, Oaths, or any other Bounds, of either divine or human Cast, that can fix or regulate a People, whose

whose whole Souls are set on the Destruction of their Neighbours: And is it possible, after all, that there is a Set of People amongst us, so lost to all Sense of Honour, Conscience, and common Honesty, to be so much the Advocates for *France*, as to endeavour to lull their Fellow Subjects asleep in a fatal Security? Or is it only a Knack of Writing, or Wantonness of the Imagination, a desire to sport with our Dangers and Distresses, that can give such loose Thinkers a Relish for Contradiction; to the best and warmest Endeavours of the State, to preserve to us our Laws, Religion, and Liberties.

'Tis a very melancholy Reflection on the State of human Nature, more especially as it seems to regard this Nation, That Commerce and Industry, which appears at first Sight to be the Fountain of our Happiness and Prosperity, the Source from whence springs our Glory and Grandeur, and which has establish'd us amongst the Nations as worthy of being rever'd; should, by making us idle, wanton, and forgetful of ourselves, our Dignity and Fame, reduce us into a State of thinking worthy of being deplored. Our Forefathers, who tasted not of this Wealth and Affluence, made it even their Diversion to conquer *France*, while we, who seem to have been designed by Providence for that special Purpose, by having all the Means put into our Hands, are yawning and gaping like Men half asleep, half awake, and instead of conquering others, seem to be in doubt, whether we shall defend ourselves; or acting the Part of pusillanimous Scoundrels, give up our Laws, Religion, Liberties, Wives, Children and Country, and become Slaves to the most insolent and abject Wretches on Earth, purely because they have the Impudence to aim at our Destruction, who heretofore were only esteemed as Beasts of Diversion, and were hunted like

like Foxes for our Recreation ; who dare not even now meet us in the Field of Battle, and only glory in, and take every Advantage of our private Feuds and Animosities, spirited up by a set of Wretches of the mongrel *French* Breed, who have a natural Antipathy to Honour and Gratitude ; who are protected under the Influence of Liberty ; who with Protestant Faces and Jesuits Hearts, imingle with the giddy Throng, and vent their Treason against our Honour, in every Corner of the Town ; these, and such as these mixing with Men of desperate Circumstances, and Consciences void of all regard to their Country's Welfare, perplex, by a kind of specious Nonsense, the Minds of the Well-meaning ; and perceiving them not well vers'd in the Art of Reasoning, terrify them into an Ague Fit, that they may have an Opportunity of cramming them with Jesuits Powder, relish'd high with the Tincture of *French* Slavery.

The Liberties of Mankind, in a free State, are attended by many glorious, and some very evil Consequences. Bad Effects will sometimes flow from the best Causes ; and while Men are permitted freely to do all the Good to one another in their Power, by the Incapacity in the State of pursuing Distinctions too nicely, they are often permitted to commit such Evils, as tend to put the State under great Difficulties, and contributes, in some Measure, to render the Community miserable. Human Nature will ever be the same ; there is no such Thing as making all Mankind honest ; Villains abound in every Clime, are the Product of every Corner of the Earth ; but they pester Free States most, because a due Regard to Liberty gives them too many Opportunities of acting with Impunity. Where Wealth abounds, no Man is happy that is not rich, because he is not upon an Equality with those that are ;
and

and Misery and Distress is very ill borne amongst a rich People. If amongst the Miserable there happens, as is too often the Case, Men of Learning and Genius, they find no great Difficulty of entering into the Necessities of Men in the like Situation with themselves; and such, in the most wealthy States, will always, either through Modesty, Idleness or Luxury, be a very extensive Body; these spirited by Distress, are easily warm'd and irritated by specious Reasonings, into Murmurings against the State, and by a constant Attention to the Point in View, draw in many of a happier Turn, into their Sentiments and Pursuits, and, in the whole, contribute not a little to the confounding of public Counsels; and have generally this in their Favour, that the Great and Powerful are not over cautious of giving them too many just Causes of Offence. A late Statesman understood this very well, and pursued Means of Prevention with great Rectitude of Judgment, tho' some say to a Fault; all Extremes are bad; but 'tis very evident that no Minister ever reign'd long, that did not in some Degree pursue the same Rule. If his Measures were not, in every respect justifiable, as they were in too many Cases liable to Complaint, yet he had the Art of rendering them passable, by endeavouring to oblige and make every Body easy. If a Minister means never so well, he can never be infallible; and he who makes no Friends, stands a fair Chance to have his minutest Errors scrutinized, and his best Designs put an ill Gloss on; his Measures, by that Means, in some Degree, impeded, and the whole Community thereby become Sufferers. To neglect the Artful and Ingenious, who only impede the Progress of public, through the Necessity of their own private Affairs, to acquire, perhaps, the Profits of a Pamphlet, or some such present Emolument, is probably

bably oftentimes attended with worse Consequences, than the neglecting to punish those who are the real Enemies of the State, by being the Friends of *France*. 'Tis certainly true, that all the inferior Class of People could say, would signify but little, if there were not some who make another kind of Figure, improving every Hint to the Ends of their own private Ambition, and labouring both privately and publickly, to give Weight to such Writings or Speeches, as are produced by Inferiors. It is therefore very obviously worthy the Attention of those in Power, to consider of proper Means to prevent the Evil Tendency of such Pursuits, not only for their own Sakes, whom they love most dearly, but also for that of the Community, whom they affect to love; that as a War with *France* is both just and necessary, it may not be impeded in its Progress by those, who only do Mischief, because they are not happy enough to have it in their Power to do good. And as to those who are the real Enemies of the State, I hope it is not out of the Power of those that govern to enter into proper Measures for their Punishment, without infringing, in the least, the Rights and Liberties of the People.

F I N I S

